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206. (Amended) A method for counting  
[nonoperational] analyte-specific signal element features in  
data acquired by reading an optical disc having at least one  
readable [nonoperational structure] analyte-specific signal  
element, said method comprising:

segregating detected widths into a series of  
width segments, thereby creating a statistical distribution  
of widths that includes at least one peak;

calculating a standard deviation of said  
distribution of widths about said at least one peak; and

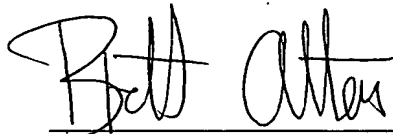
adding the number of features that fall within  
a certain number of said standard deviations.

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REMARKS

An early and favorable action is respectfully  
requested.

Respectfully submitted,

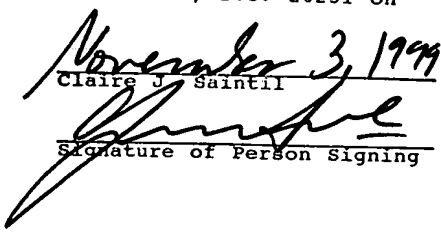


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